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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2025 | OAKRIDGER.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Trump has history with shutdowns

President has played role in 5 of them since 2017

Sarah D. Wire
USA TODAY

A shuttered government is familiar territory to President Donald Trump, whose first term saw three shutdowns, including a 35-day closure spanning the end of 2018 into early 2019. It remains the longest in U.S. history.

Congress failed to pass new spending authority by the start of Oct. 1, prompting a shutdown of the federal government, the fourth during a Trump presidency.

“A lot of good can come down from shutdowns,” Trump told reporters in the White House a few hours before the deadline. “We can get rid of a lot of things that we didn’t want.”

The leaders of the two parties are standing their ground and it is unclear how long this shutdown might last. “I

hope it’s very short because real Americans are going to suffer,” House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-Louisiana, said on CNN on Sept. 30.

Republicans have demanded a stop-gap solution that would extend current funding levels until Nov. 21.

Democrats want to undo large-scale Medicaid cuts Republicans made this summer.

They also want to permanently extend tax subsidies millions of Americans use to purchase insurance on the

federal and state health insurance marketplaces. Those subsidies are due to expire Dec. 31, and Republicans say there’s time to negotiate about them later.

After weeks of not speaking to one another, as the deadline neared, Trump and the four top congressional leaders left a private White House meeting on Sept. 29 without an agreement to keep the federal government open.

See HISTORY, Page 6A

MORE FUN PHOTOS FROM OAK RIDGE’S ATOMIC FALL FEST

The Oak Ridger | USA TODAY NETWORK

The city of Oak Ridge’s first-ever Atomic Fall Fest had a variety of activities last Friday and Saturday. Here’s more photos from the festival.

Madalynne, 5, picks out the stickers she wants to use on her boat.

TOP: Luke, 7, covers his shirt in yellow paint in the Splatter booth at the Atomic Fall Fest at A.K. Bissell Park in Oak Ridge on Sept. 27.

PHOTOS BY ANGELINA ALCANTAR/NEWS SENTINEL

Madison Lavender swings at a floating ball.

Abigail Green, 8, smiles when she feels the static from the Van Der Graaf generator at the American Museum of Science and Energy booth.

Children’s Halloween Party set for Oct. 24

The Oak Ridger
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Oak Ridge Recreation and Parks Department will host the 2025 Children’s Halloween Party on Friday, Oct. 24, from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

This annual event is usually attended by thousands of children and their parents, according to information from a city of Oak Ridge news release.

Activities will be planned throughout the western fields of A.K. Bissell Park, including a costume contest, trick-or-treating, a pumpkin patch, and a hayride, weather permitting. Food trucks will be selling a variety of food and drinks.

Businesses and organizations have sponsored booths for the event. Sponsors create their own Halloween-themed booths, supply volunteers, and hand out free candy that is age-appropriate for children from 4 years through fourth grade.

Parking will be located at both the west (Recreation Center side) and east (Library side) parking areas. To assure a smooth event, the west side parking area will be filled first. Traffic in front of the Recreation Center will flow in one direction, exiting onto the turnpike from the east side parking area.

See PARTY, Page 6A

Elvis tries to find the perfect pumpkin during the Halloween Party at A.K. Bissell Park in Oak Ridge last year. The Halloween Party returns for its 43rd year on Oct. 24.

ANGELINA ALCANTAR/NEWS SENTINEL

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Volume 76 | No. 182
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